

A New *Otiothops* from Brazil (Araneae, Palpimanidae)

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Abstract: A new palpimanid, *Otiothops recurvus*, is described from Brazil; both the male and female genitalia are uniquely modified, and the species does not belong to any of the previously established species groups of the genus.

Through the courtesy of Dr. Charles D. Dondale of the Biosystematics Research Institute, Research Branch, Agriculture Canada, I have recently had the opportunity to examine a small collection of neotropical spiders. Included in this collection were a male and female of an undescribed *Otiothops* from Brazil; as this genus has recently been revised (Platnick, 1975) and the new species has unique genitalic modifications, an isolated description seems warranted. The extremely long embolus of the male (figs. 1, 2) resembles those of the *walckenaeri* group, but none of those species have the embolus twisted around the palpal bulb. The internal female genitalia are unlike those of any other palpimanid; instead of lying between the posterior edge of the abdominal scutum and the pedicel, the soft spermathecae are reflexed backward toward the spinnerets, and are surrounded by a leathery, striated, posteriorly invaginated mass of connective tissue that lies in a trough-like, heavily sclerotized extension of the scutum (figs. 4, 5). So far as I am aware, the hard internal extension of the abdominal scutum and posteriorly directed spermathecae are unique among spiders. The illustrations are by Dr. M. U. Shadab of the American Museum of Natural History.

Otiothops recurvus, n. sp.

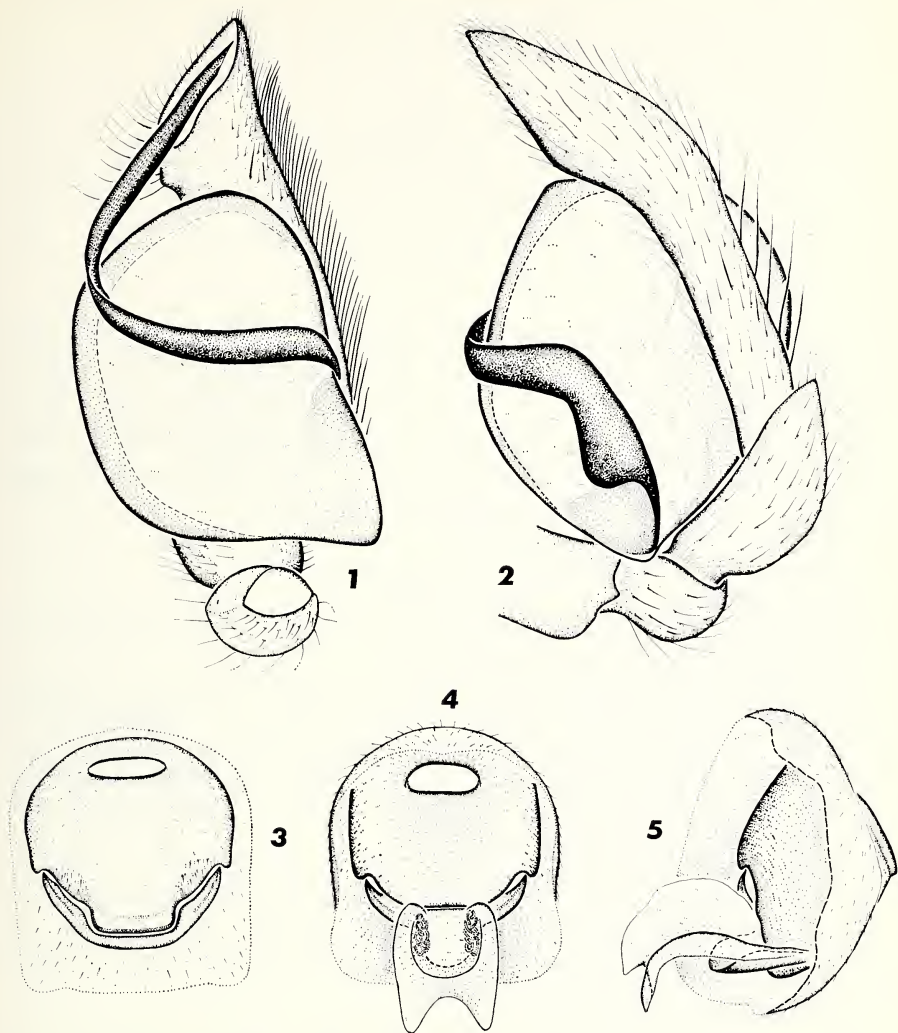
Types: Male holotype and female paratype from Cabeça do Veado, Distrito Federal, Brazil (elevation 3600 feet, October 14–November 2, 1971; E. G. I., and E. A. Munroe), deposited in the Canadian National Collection, Ottawa.

Etymology: The specific name is from the Latin *recurvus* (bent backwards) and refers to the orientation of the spermathecae.

Diagnosis: *Otiothops recurvus* may be easily distinguished from the other members of the genus by the elongate, twisted embolus (figs. 1, 2) and the posteriorly directed spermathecae (figs. 4, 5).

Male. Total length 4.90 mm. Carapace 2.20 mm long, 1.47 mm wide. Femur I 1.50 mm long, 0.72 mm high. Cephalic area moderately elevated. Posterior median eyes contiguous. Claw tufts present, dense. Metatarsus I with ventral series of spiniform tubercles. Embolus elongate, twisted around palpal bulb (figs. 1, 2).

Female. Total length 5.69 mm. Carapace 2.50 mm long, 1.65 mm wide. Femur I 1.58 mm long, 0.79 mm high. Somatic characters as in male. Abdominal scutum elevated medially, bordered posteriorly by sclerotized strip (fig. 3), prolonged internally into trough-like beak (fig. 5). Unsclerotized spermathecae directed posteriorly, surrounded by leathery tissue (fig. 4).



FIGS. 1-5. *Otiothops recurvus*, n. sp. 1, ventral view of palp; 2, retrolateral view of palp; 3, ventral view of female abdominal scutum; 4, dorsal view of internal female genitalia; 5, oblique lateral view of internal female genitalia.

Literature Cited

- PLATNICK, N. I. 1975. A revision of the palpimanid spiders of the new subfamily Otiothopinae (Araneae, Palpimanidae). Amer. Mus. Novitates **2562**: 1-32.